

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer system for storing and retrieving data including default preference data records, comprising:

a memory configured to store an identifier including three or more variables for identifying each of said default preference data records stored in said computer system, wherein a first one of said three or more variables is a physical location variable relating to a physical location of at least one device other than said computer system, a second one of said three or more variables is a user identification variable, and a further one of said three or more variables being suitable for use with a wildcard in setting said default preferences; and

communication means for communicating ~~at least one of~~ said default preference data records to said at least one device;

wherein a first one of said default preference data records is associated with a first set of configuration preferences for said at least one device and a second one of said default preference data records is associated with a second set of configuration preferences for said at least one device.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein one of said three or more variables is a device identification variable.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, further includes a timestamp for prioritizing said data.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein said system includes a registry for storing said data.
6. (Original) The system of claim 5, wherein said registry is provided in a database structure.
7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said three or more variables includes a device identification variable and an application identification variable.
8. (Original) The system of claim 7, further including a timestamp for prioritizing data.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said system includes a registry and said registry includes a database structure for storing said data.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer registry for storing and retrieving preference data, comprising:

an identifier including at least three variables for identifying data stored in said computer registry, wherein a first one of said at least three variables is a physical location variable relating to a physical location of at least one device other than a computer in which said registry is stored and a second one of said at least three variables is a user identification variable, and wherein the data stored in said computer registry includes preference data; and

a plurality of data records comprising a first data record including said identifier and associated default parameters for said at least one device;

wherein said first data record is associated with a first set of configuration preferences for said at least one device and a second data record is associated with a second set of configuration preferences for said at least one device.

12. (Original) The registry of claim 11, further comprising a means for providing a floating value to said at least three variables.

13. (Previously Presented) The registry of claim 12, further comprising a means for associating a time stamp to said data.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for storing and retrieving data in a computer system including a computer registry, comprising the steps of:

identifying each of a stored plurality of default preference data ~~record~~ records in said computer system by an identifier including three or more variables, wherein a first one of said three or more variables is a physical location variable relating to a physical location of at least one device other than said computer system and a second one of said three or more variables is a user identification variable; and

filling one of said variables with a wildcard for enabling default settings to be set for (i) users not listed in the computer registry and (ii) for users listed in the registry but having no preferences;

wherein a first one of said plurality of default preference data records is associated with a first set of configuration preferences for said at least one device and a second one of said plurality of default preference data records is associated with a second set of configuration preferences for said at least one device.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of storing data in a registry.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 15, wherein one of said three or more variables is a device identification variable.

17. (Original). A method according to claim 16, further including the step of time stamping said data for prioritizing said data.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, further including the step of deleting one or more data items that has been superseded by a subsequent data having same identifier but a higher time stamp value.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein said registry is provided in a database structure.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a locating a device.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The registry of claim 12, further comprising means for deleting one or more data items that has been superseded by a subsequent data having a same identifier but a higher time stamp value.

26. (Previously Presented) The registry of claim 11, wherein said preference data is communicated to the at least one device from the computer in which said registry is stored.
27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising:
communicating said preference data to the at least one device from said computer system.
28. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said three or more variables of the first one of said default preference data records differs from a corresponding one of said three or more variables of the second one of said default preference data records resulting in the first set of configuration preferences being different than the second set of configuration preferences.
29. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the configuration preferences include one or more from a group consisting of a default homepage, access to data, restriction from accessing data, look and feel of an application, look and feel of a user interface, setting a key function, desktop organization, automatically disseminating information, scheduled device functions, and user interface settings for said at least one device.
30. (New) The registry of claim 11, wherein at least one of said at least three variables of the first data record differs from a corresponding one of said at least three variables of the second data record resulting in the first set of configuration preferences being different than the second set of configuration preferences.

31. (New) The registry of claim 11, wherein the first and second sets of configuration preferences include one or more from a group consisting of a default homepage, access to data, restriction from accessing data, look and feel of an application, look and feel of a user interface, setting a key function, desktop organization, automatically disseminating information, scheduled device functions, and user interface settings for said at least one device.

32. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein at least one of said three or more variables of the first one of said plurality of default preference data records differs from a corresponding one of said three or more variables of the second one of said plurality of default preference data records resulting in the first set of configuration preferences being different than the second set of configuration preferences.

33. (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the first and second sets of configuration preferences include one or more from a group consisting of a default homepage, access to data, restriction from accessing data, look and feel of an application, look and feel of a user interface, setting a key function, desktop organization, automatically disseminating information, scheduled device functions, and user interface settings for said at least one device.